USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

Wednesday, JAN 03, 2007 VOL. 54 NO. 01

This report is a combination of our Monday & Wednesday issues -

Due to New Year's Day Holiday and by Executive Order to observe a National Day of Mourning for President Gerald Ford
U.S. Department of Agriculture Agricultural Marketing Service Poultry Programs Poultry Market News and Analysis Branch



NATIONAL BROILER MARKET AT-A-GLANCE

Majority prices were unchanged in the West, but higher in the East and Midwest when compared to previous week. Trade sentiment was mixed, but mostly fully steady to firm. Retail and food service demand was light to moderate, best into fast food channels and where first of the month business was active. Supplies of all sizes were in good balance to well cleared for trade needs. In the parts structure, movement was fair to fairly good following the extended weekend. Wings were barely adequate to tight and moving well, breast items were sufficient to well cleared, closest for tenders. Dark meat was adequate to close with boneless cuts in the shortest position. In production areas, live supplies were moderate. Weights were desirable to heavy, but mostly desirable.

Final report of prices negotiated for trucklot sales of ready-to-cook icepacked broiler/fryers (includes branded product) to be delivered to first receivers at major market centers week of 01-JAN-2007 (cents per lb)

110 ---- -I- A

	US grade A			Composi	te
<u>Areas</u>	<u>Majority</u>	Wtd Avg	<u>Lds</u> :	Wtd Avg	<u>Lds</u>
Boston/New England	TFEWR		:	64.55	26
Chicago	62.00-65.00	65.13	35 :	66.80	59
Ohio Cities	TFEWR		:	65.88	18
Denver	76.50	76.50	12 :	77.46	13
Detroit	64.00-66.00	66.70	10 :	68.15	43
LosAngeles	77.00	76.07	61 :	71.20	169
NewYork	64.00-67.00	65.87	23 :	62.97	66
Philadelphia	63.50-65.00	64.30	10 :	64.79	21
Pittsburgh	63.00-66.00	65.00	11 :	68.58	56
St.Louis	65.00-65.25	64.54	20 :	64.97	33
San Francisco	77.50	77.37	30 :	76.17	71

Composite Weighted Average

Marketing Regions	<u>Majority</u>	Wtd Avg	<u>Lds</u>					
Eastern	65.00-70.00	68.48	47					
Central	65.00-71.00	68.62	57					
Western	72.00-76.00	73.86	35					
Southeast Area FOB Dock Equivalent								
Mississippi	69.00-71.00	69.84	92					

<u>GEORGIA F.O.B. DOCK PRICES</u> - BASED ON ICE-PACKED USDA GRADE "A" SIZED 2 1/2 TO 3 POUND BIRDS.

MONDAY, JAN 01, 2007 - This week's trading 70.00 cents.

WEDNESDAY, JAN 03, 2007- Next week's trading advanced .50 to 70.50 cents, this compares to 70.25 cents last year on January 4, 2006.

LOADS	RANGE	MON FINAL FOB DOCK		Wed., Jan 3, 2007
992	57.00-74.00	69.	.45	Quoted prices on
		onfirmed FINA ce on ice-pao WTD AVG	cked parts:	ice-packed parts for next week's trading:
ITEM	(CENTS/LB)		(CENTS/LB)
LINE RU	JN TENDERS	163.50	1,238	166.50
BREAS	ΓS - B/S	136.00	5,123	138.00
BREAS	TS - WHOLE	84.00	1,262	83.50
THIGH N	/IEAT - B/S	93.50	1,023	96.00
LEG QU	ARTERS	32.50	8,289	33.00
WINGS		111.00	2,429	114.50

This information is supplied by the Georgia Department of Agriculture's Poultry Market News Service.

NORTHEAST Trucklot buying activity on ready-to-cook whole broiler/ fryers ranged moderate to good following the holiday the weekend. Offerings of all sizes were in good balance to well cleared. Movement through retail and distributive channels was fair. The market tone was fully steady to firm. In the parts complex, wings and tenders were tight. The balance of items were in good balance and clearing satisfactorily.

SOUTHERN Trade sentiment was fully steady to firm. Retail demand following the holiday weekend was mostly light to moderate, instances moderate for active retail ads and first of the month business. Food service was fair to moderate, best for fast food promotions. Supplies of all sizes were usually sufficient to short of full trade needs with most plants running part time schedules. In the parts structure, interest was fair to fairly good. Wings were tight and continued to move strong at premium levels. Breast items and dark meat cuts were no more than adequate to tight and frequently held with confidence. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at mostly desirable weights.

WESTERN The final majority prices were unchanged throughout the region. Trading reported on regular commitments at mainly unchanged prices, however new negotiations were at mainly higher prices. Offerings were in fair balance on heavy weights and at least adequate on smaller sizes. Buying activity increased to cover anticipated features. Retailer demand was moderate to good. Dealers reported satisfactory weekend clearances. The Los Angeles negotiated WOG weighted average was up 2.32 to 73.67 and the volume reported at 27 loads was up 4 percent.

MIDWEST Final majority prices were higher in all market compared to last Monday's final prices; Ohio cities TFEWR. Whole broiler/fryer market tone was fully steady to firm. Offers were limited for light trade interest. Retail demand was light to moderate. Food service trade was light to moderate, fast food normal to good. Floor stocks adequate to closely balanced; weights desirable. Parts trade inquiry was most active on wings and leg items. Supplies of all parts were limited and held with confidence. The market tone was fully steady to firm on parts.

<u>DELMARVA BROILER/FRYERS</u> Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds was moderate to good and was sufficient in keeping the bulk of seller offerings cleared. Live supplies were moderate; weights were mostly desirable to heavy. Processor schedules were moderately heavy. Less than trucklot asking prices were 1 cent higher at 66 to 76 cents. Trade sentiment was steady to fully steady. In the parts complex, wings and tenders were generally well cleared. ACTUAL SLAUGHTER WEEK ENDING 12/30/2006 WAS 9,882,509 @ 5.86 LBS

*BROILER/FRYER CURRENT NEGOTIATED PRICES FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY INCLUDES MOSTLY MULTIPLE-DROP SHIPMENTS OF BRANDED AND WING TAGGED TO NEW YORK CITY FROM DELMARVA

	BRANDE	U.S. GRADE A
	01/03/07	01/02/07
RANGE	60-80	59-79
WEIGHTED AVERAGE	(A)	(A)
NO. OF BOXES	(A)	(A)

(A) Not reported to avoid disclosing individual operations.

Jan 02 - Southern Broiler/Fryer Parts - not released due to Executive order as National Day of Mourning for President Gerald Ford.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA PLTRY,	(L.A. AREA) P	ROCESSED
DELIVERED TO RETAILE	RS	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS		91-100
ROASTERS 4# & UP		99-108
HENSUNDER 5#		
HENS OVER 5#		65-74
DUCKS		
RABBITS-WHOLE		
RABBITS-CUT UP		
SAN FRANCISCO PROCE	ESSED PLTRY	
DELIVERED TO RESTAU	RANTS AND II	<u>NSTITUTIONS</u>
FRESH FRYERS	ICE PACK	93-105
	DRY PACK	110-114
ROASTERS 4# & UP	ICE PACK	98
	DRY PACK	111-118
HENS OVER 5#	ICE PACK	86-100
	DRY PACK	100-107
DUCKS		190-195

SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS F.O.B. DOCK OR EQUIVALENT, ICED-PACKED, PRICES SHOWN ARE DAY OF SHIPMENT (INCLUDES CURRENT AND PRIOR NEGOTIATIONS), TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUME, CENTS PER POUND.

PO	UNDS			WTD			
<u>ITEM</u>	(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	<u>AVG</u>			
BREAST - B/S	765	119.00-191.00	-	124.82			
TENDERLOINS	208	117.00-190.00	-	126.47			
BREAST - LINE RUN	Т	OO FEW TO R	REPORT				
FRONTHALVES	Т	OO FEW TO R	REPORT				
LEGS	345	41.00-49.00	42-43	43.78			
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	768	30.00-36.00	32-33	32.05			
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	924	32.00-39.00	35	34.63			
WINGS (WHOLE)	325	98.00-112.00	98-101	101.98			
WINGS (CUT)	105	119.00-131.00	119-121	121.76			
DRUMSTICKS	Т	OO FEW TO R	REPORT				
THIGHS	Т	OO FEW TO R	REPORT				
B/STHIGHS	Т	OO FEW TO R	REPORT				

RANGE	TOD	AY'S AVERAGE	5-DAY A	/ERAGE			

45.50 - 50.50 47.63 47.46 The Index is intended solely as an indicator of values for commodity-type product and does not represent industry's willingness to sell or ability to buy.

NORTHEAST BROILER/FRYER PARTS Trucklot buying interest was noted as moderately good following the holiday weekend as dealers assess market conditions. Offerings of breast items were adequate to well cleared; wings and tenders were in close balance to short for current trade needs. Other dark meat items were sufficient and clearing satisfactorily. Movement through retail and distributive channels was fair to moderate. The market tone was firm for tenders and wings; steady to fully steady on the balance of items.

ICE PACKED BROILER/FRYER PARTS, DELIVERED TO FIRST RECEIVERS IN POOL TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES, CENTS PER POUND.

JAN 02	CURRENT NEG	WTD			CURRENT NEG	WTD	JAN 03
<u>ITEM</u>	TRADING*	AVG**	VOL/LBS	<u>ITEM</u>	TRADING*	AVG**	VOL/LBS
BREAST - B/S	130-135	127.33	510,476	BREAST - B/S	130-135	110.63	1,121,916
TENDERLOINS	125	119.92	110,400	TENDERLOINS	125-130	120.52	222,840
BREAST - WITH RIBS	70-71	79.06	70,760	BREAST - WITH RIBS	70-71	76.73	136,640
BREAST - LINE RUN	70	73.68	68,400	BREAST - LINE RUN	70	74.31	70,200
LEGS	46-47	46.64	148,600	LEGS	46-47	46.52	355,400
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	32-33	33.48	214,160	LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	32-33	32.89	442,040
DRUMSTICKS	34-35	43.36	68,901	DRUMSTICKS	34-35	39.73	139,014
THIGHS	38-39	46.13	46,000	THIGHS	38-39	46.03	86,970
B/S THIGHS	99-100	96.95	31,960	B/STHIGHS	99-100	94.32	150,360
WINGS (WHOLE)	107-108	112.85	166,280	WINGS (WHOLE)	110-111	110.27	220,640
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPI	ED) 10-12	11.59	22,040	BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPE	D) 10-12	11.72	31,480
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	35-40	33.03	20,400	LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	35-40	38.97	16,200
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	45-50	55.06	20,520	GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	45-50	48.99	53,560

INCLUDES NEW YORK CITY METRO AREA, NORTHERN NJ, MA, CT, RI, AND PA (NORTHEAST OF HARRISBURG).

^{**} WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICE OF ALL GRADES AND BRANDS OF PRODUCT SHIPPED, OR TO BE SHIPPED AS OF 1:30 P.M.

JAN 02	ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER OF BROILER-FRYERS (IN THOUSANDS)									,	JAN 03		
	<u>ESTIMATE</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u>	AVG WTS	<u>ACTUAL</u>	AVG WTS	ESTIN	IATED	ACT	UAL	AVG	WTS	ACTUAL	AVG
													WTS
	01/02	12/29	12/29	12/26	12/22	01/03	01/02	01/01	12/29	01/01	12/29	12/27	12/25
Alabama	3,822	5,390	5.26	2,623	5.23	3,956	3,822	Holiday	5,390	Holiday	5.26	3,885	Holiday
Arkansas	4,483	6,284	5.19	2,691	5.08	5,440	4,483	Holiday	6,284	Holiday	5.19	5,270	Holiday
Delmarva	2,347	2,872	5.78	2,336	5.76	2,324	2,347	Holiday	2,872	Holiday	5.78	2,344	Holiday
KY-LA-TN	2,350	3,083	5.04	1,586	4.87	2,381	2,350	(A)	3,083	(A)	5.04	2,389	Holiday
Mississipp	i 2,450	3,656	5.25	1,995	5.78	2,656	2,450	(A)	3,656	(A)	5.25	2,905	Holiday
N. Carolina	2,715	3,637	6.71	2,055	6.78	2,753	2,715	(A)	3,637	(A)	6.71	2,722	Holiday
Texas	2,550	2,741	5.39	2,532	5.30	2,650	2,550	Holiday	2,741	Holiday	5.39	2,545	Holiday
Total	20,717	27,663	5.48	15,818	5.31	22,160	20,717	674	27,663	5.60	5.48	22,060	0.00
Mon-Tue	21,393 (A)			15,818 (A)	Mon-Wed	43,553(B)					37,878(E	3)

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above.

Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 03-Jan 2007 is estimated to be 30,995,000 up 30.58 percent from a week ago and down 4.7 percent from a year ago.

(last week 23,736,000 last year 32,513,000)

(A) Not published to avoid disclosing individual operations

(B) Weekly cumulative for states listed above.

Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 03-Jan-07 is estimated to be 33,154,000 head up 0.15 percent from a week ago and up 0.92 percent from a year ago. (Last week 33,103,000, last year 32,852,000)

^{*}TODAY'S NEGOTIATED SALES AS OF 11:30 A.M.

ESTIMATED U.S. LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTER

UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION FOR WEEK ENDING 06-JAN-07

CHEEK LEELING LOTTON ON WELKENDING OF WAR							
	CURRENT WEEK	PREVIOUS WEEK					
	01/06/07 (1)	12/30/06					
CLASS	THOUSAN	ND HEAD ———					
Broiler/fryer	136,307 (2)	159,665					
Light hens	853	787					
Heavy hens	1,246	1,043					
Total	138,406	161,495					

(1)ESTIMATED (2)The estimated number of broiler-fryers available for slaughter the week ending 06-Jan-07 is 150.0 million head compared to 151.8 million head slaughtered the same week last year. The estimated U.S. slaughter this week is 136.6 million head or 13.4 million less than estimated available. For the week of 13-Jan-07 the estimated available is 155.4 million head.

WEEKLY COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS-SELECTED STGE CENTERS (INCL GOVT STOCKS) (IN THOUSANDS)

PROC	ESSED TURKEY LBS	PROCESSED POULTRY LBS
AM 01/01/07	36,813	60,489
AM 12/01/06	38,753	65,295
CHG	-1,940	-4,806
PCT CHG	-5	-7

<u>COLD STORAGE MOVEMENT</u> (IN THOUSANDS)

	PROCESSED TURKEYS			PROCESSED POULTRY		
	01/02/07	12/27/06	01/02/06	01/02/07	12/27/06	01/02/06
PACIFIC						
COAST	1,683	1,595	309	8,659	8,677	5,280

LOS
ANGELES 180 198 39 2,278 2,399 3,009

CENTRAL MISCELLANEOUS POULTRY RTC HENS

READY-TO-COOK PRICES NEGOTIATED FOR DELIVERY TO FIRST RECEIVERS, U.S. GRADE A AND PLANT GRADE, 5 LBS. AND UP, FOR WEEK OF JANUARY 1, 2007 RANGE
HENS ICE PACKED (12 PER BOX) 67-76

69-85

HACKETTSTOWN POULTRY SALES FOR 01/02/07

VACUUM PACKED (6-9 PER BOX)

AI PAPERS REQUIRED TO SELL ALL OUT OF STATE POULTRY LOW HIGH AVG LOW HIGH AVG HEAVY FOWL lb. - HEAVY FOWL ea. LIGHT FOWL lb. - LIGHT FOWL ea. MIXED FOWL Ib. - MIXED FOWL ea. BANTAMS lb. - BANTAMS ea. BROILERS lb. - BROILERS ea. - ROASTERS ea. ROASTERS lb. - FRYERS ea. FRYERS lb. CHICKS lb. CHICKS ea. PULLETS lb. - PULLETS ea. BUNNIES lb. BUNNIES ea. ROOSTERS lb. .50 - ROOSTERS ea. GEESE lb. - GEESE ea. TURKEYS lb. - TURKEYS ea. DUCKS lb. - DUCKS ea. RABBITS lb. 1.40 2.00 1.69 RABBITS ea. PIGEONS lb. - PIGEONS ea. 2.50 5.25 GUINEA FOWL lb. - GUINEA FOWL ea. DUCKLINGS lb. - DUCKLINGS ea.

- CALL DUCKS ea.

- TURKEY POULTS ea.-

- GOSLINGS ea.

GUINEA KEETS ea. -

SILKIES ea.

GUINEA PIGS ea.

CHUKARS ea. TOTAL COOPS 26

MAJOR WHOLESALE MARKETS - MEXICO CITY

Cents per pound for the week ending December 29, 2006

Cents per pound for the week ending becember 29, 2000								
	W	hole		Legs	Necks, Backs	Livers/		
	<u>Chic</u>	<u>kens</u>	Breasts	W/ Thighs	s <u>& Wings</u>	<u>Gizzards</u>	<u>Hens</u>	
	RAYON							
	Low	73.22	147.29	96.79	16.83	8.42	77.85	
	High	76.59	155.70	109.41	25.25	12.62	77.85	
	Mostly	74.49	151.50	109.41	25.25	12.62	77.85	
	SAN JUA	.N						
	Low	73.22	151.50	105.21	21.04	8.42	84.16	
	High	76.59	159.91	113.62	25.25	12.62	84.16	
	Mostly	74.06	155.70	109.41	21.04	12.62	84.16	
	NEW SAI	N JUAI	N					
	Low	72.80	155.70	101.00	25.25	12.62	84.16	
	High	77.01	159.91	113.62	29.46	16.83	84.16	
	Mostly	73.64	159.91	109.41	25.25	12.62	84.16	
	BECERR	Α						
	Low	74.06	155.70	101.00	25.25	12.62	84.16	
	High	77.43	164.12	113.62	29.46	16.83	84.16	
	Mostly	75.75	159.91	109.41	25.25	12.62	84.16	

ARKANSAS BROILER/FRYER PARTS F.O.B. DOCK OR EQUIVALENT, ICED-PACKED, PRICES SHOWN ARE DAY OF SHIPMENT (INCLUDES CURRENT AND PRIOR NEGOTIATIONS), TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUME, CENTS PER POUND.

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>LBS (000)</u>	<u>RANGE</u>	<u>MAJORITY</u>	AVG			
BREAST - B/S	1,350	119.00-137.00	122-124	122.87			
TENDERLOINS	TO	TOO FEW TO REPORT					
BREAST - WITH RIB	S TO	TOO FEW TO REPORT					
FRONT HALVES	TO	TOO FEW TO REPORT					
LEGS	TO	TOO FEW TO REPORT					
LEG QTRS (BULK)	1,364	30.00-42.00	30-32	31.45			
LEG QTERS (4/10)	1,054	31.00-37.00	32	32.01			
DRUMSTICKS	TO	TOO FEW TO REPORT					
THIGHS	1,363	38.00-47.00	39	38.95			

MIDWEST REGION BROILER/FRYER PARTS ICE-PACKED POOL TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES DELIVERED TO: IL, IN, IA, KS, MI, MN, MO, NE, ND, OH, SD, AND WI WEEK OF 01-JAN-TO05-DEC-2007

rice (Cents) Per Lb	. Mostly
110.00 - 132.00	117.00 - 122.00
66.00 - 90.00	68.00 - 80.00
41.00 - 49.00	-
26.00 - 36.00	31.00 - 33.00
32.00 - 37.00	34.00 - 35.00
30.00 - 39.00	-
38.00 - 47.00	-
110.00 - 120.00	112.00 - 117.00
12.00 - 23.00	-
32.00 - 36.00	-
40.00 - 55.00	-
	66.00 - 90.00 41.00 - 49.00 26.00 - 36.00 32.00 - 37.00 30.00 - 39.00 38.00 - 47.00 110.00 - 120.00 12.00 - 23.00 32.00 - 36.00

USDA, AMS, POULTRY PROGRAMS,

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EASTERN REGION MECHANICALLY SEPARATED CHICKEN

CENTRAL REGION MECHANICALLY SEPARATED CHICKEN

F.O.B. SHIPPER DOCK OR EQUIVALENT, PRICES NEGOTIATED FOR MECHANICALLY SEPARATED CHICKEN IN TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUMES, CENTS PER POUND, DELIVERY WITHIN TWO WEEKS.

DECEMBER 29, 2006					DECEMBER 2	9, 2006		
CHICKEN WITH SKIN A	DDED —— PRI	CES-VOL	UME ——	CHICKEN WIT	<u>H SKIN ADDE</u>	<u>D</u> —— PRIC	CES — VOL	UME ——
	(Cents per Pound)				(Ce	nts per Pound)		
FAT				FAT				
CONTENT FRO	ZEN FRESH	TOTAL	EXPORT	CONTENT	FROZEN	FRESH	TOTAL	EXPORT
15% OR LESS				15% OR LESS	i			
RANGE	- 16.50-17.50	200,000	-	RANGE	-	13.00-17.00	163,200	-
WTDAVERGE	16.90			WTDAVERGE		15.00		
15-20%				15-20%				
RANGE 16.00-2	1.00 12.00-16.00	1,412,000	692,000	RANGE	17.50-19.50	12.00-16.00	1,116,400	325,200
WTDAVERGE 1	7.82 13.98			WTDAVERGE	18.43	13.06		
20% OR MORE				20% OR MORE	=			
RANGE	- 14.00	120,000	-	RANGE	-	14.50	204,000	-
WTD AVERGE	14.00			WTD AVERGE		14.50		

<u>SOUTH CENTRAL HEAVY LIVE HEN</u> Trading levels were generally unchanged from the past week. Demand was light for fully adequate offerings from producers. Schedules were reduced. Finished sales were fair. Trade sentiment was no better than steady.

*INCLUDES THE STATES of CT, DE, FL, GA, MA, MD, ME, NC, NH, NJ,

NY, PA, RI, SC, VA, VT, WV

HEAVY TYPE HENS (7 POUNDS AND UP)* FINAL PRICE, GENERALLY FOR SLAUGHTER THE WEEK OF 01-JAN-07

RANGE MAJORITY WTD AVG
-7.5 CENTS/LB. 4.83

AT FARM BUYER LOADING 2-7.5 CENTS/LB. 4
*WEIGHTS UNDER 7 LBS. SUBJECT TO DISCOUNT.

SOUTHEAST LIVE HEAVY HEN Prices were generally unchanged when compared to the previous week. Offerings were noted as seasonally light to fair for the adequate to fully adequate offerings of spent hens. Processing schedules for were reduced due to the holiday. Sales of finished product moderate. The undertone was generally steady.

HEAVY TYPE HENS (7 POUNDS AND UP)* FINAL PRICE, GENERALLY FOR SLAUGHTER THE WEEK OF 01-JAN-07

RANGE MAJORITY WTD AVG

AT FARM BUYER LOADING 2-8 CENTS/LB. 4.67
AT FARM PRODUCER LOADING TOO FEW TO REPORT
FOB PLANT TOO FEW TO REPORT
* WEIGHTS UNDER 7 LBS. SUBJECT TO DISCOUNT.

WEEKLY FRYERS AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING Based on the preliminary chick placements, the number of fryers available for marketing during the week ending 10-Feb-07 is estimated at 156.7 million head. This compares to 158.4 million head the previous week and to 164.0 million head the same week a year ago, when the slaughter was 166.5 million head and the composite weighted average price was 62.94 cents per pound.

BROILER-TYPE EGGS SET IN 19 SELECTED STATES DOWN 1 PERCENT

*INCLUDES THE STATES of AL, AR, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MI, MN, MO,

MS, ND, NE, OK, OH, SD, TN, TX, WI

Commercial hatcheries in the 19-State weekly program set 211 million eggs in incubators during the week ending December 30, 2006. This was down 1 percent from the eggs set the corresponding week a year earlier. Average hatchability for chicks hatched during the week was 83 percent. Average hatchability is calculated by dividing chicks hatched during the week by eggs set three weeks earlier.

BROILER CHICKS PLACED DOWN 3 PERCENT

Broiler growers in the 19-State weekly program placed 168 million chicks for meat production during the week ending December 30, 2006. Placements were down 3 percent from the comparable week a year earlier. Cumulative placements from January 1, 2006 through December 30, 2006 were 8.95 billion, down 1 percent from the same period a year earlier.

BROILER-TYPE EGGS SET AND BROILER CHICKS PLACED TOTAL 19 SELECTED STATES

			PERCENT CHANGE
WEEK ENDING 12/30/	06 2006	<u>2005</u>	PREVIOUS YEAR
EGGS SET	211,100	214,172	-01
CHICKS PLACED	168,299	173,580	-03
Source: NASS, USDA			